## AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 4, line 5 with the following amended paragraph:

In accordance with a preferred embodiment of the subject invention, the method includes the steps of providing a set of compliance rules for an investment portfolio, receiving a request to analyze a proposed transaction, and calculating a transaction limit for the proposed transaction based upon the set of compliance rules. Preferably, the step of calculating a transaction limit includes calculating a transaction limit for each compliance rule, and the method further comprises the step of sorting the compliance rules from most restrictive to least restrictive based upon the transaction limit calculated for each compliance rule. The method further includes the step of determining the buying power of the portfolio based upon the transaction limit associated with the most restrictive compliance rule. Preferably, the method further includes the step of determining whether ~~the~~ each compliance rule applies to the proposed transaction by testing each rule against the proposed transaction using a nominal transaction value, for example, one dollar. The invention further includes the step of determining that the buying power of the portfolio for the proposed transaction is zero if the nominal transaction value for the proposed transaction violates a compliance rule.